Handing over responsibility of approving rural road construction proposals to IIT and RECs

863. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has handed over the responsibility of approving rural road construction proposals under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana to IIT's Regional Engineering Colleges and other Government Institutions;

(b) if so, the basis for such a decision;

(c) what is the present status of this Yojana; and

(d) whether it is moving on as per schedule?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and {b) No, Sir. The project proposals formulated by the State Governments/Union Territories are cleared by the Ministry. The Ministry has identified certain reputed institutions to, thereupon scrutinise the appropriateness of the design and estimates of the individuals road works, with a view to ensuring adherence to optimal design and costs.

(c) and (d) Project proposals to the tune of Rs. 7553.28 crore have, so far, been cleared under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and the works are in various stages of execution, 7221 of the 12867 road works taken up in the year 2000-^001 have since been completed and others are expected to be completed by December, 2002. The road works cleared in the year 2001 -2002 have commenced in most States and are also expected, by and large, to be completed during the current year. The progress of works is being regularly reviewed with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in the interest of timely completion of the same.

Monitoring committees for rural development programmes

[864. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have not constituted the State level, division

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[Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

level, districts level, tehsil level/block level monitoring committees as on 30th June, 2002 to monitor the rural development programmes;

(b) the reasons for not constituting these monitoring committees; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government against the States not constituting the monitoring committees?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development had advised all the States and Union Territories (excluding Delhi and Chandigarh) to constitute Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at the State, the district and the block levels. These States/Union Territories have reported to have constituted the Vigilance and Monitoring committees to monitor the progress of Rural Development Programmes at all the three levels.

(b) and (c) The questions do not arise.

Delay in clearing projects by CAPART

865. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an inordinate delay in clearing the projects by the CAPART;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of proposals of various States pending with CAPART, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) According to the laid down procedure of sanctioning of projects by the CAPART, a project proposal is sanctioned after desk appraisal and pre-funding evaluation during which the capability, credibility and community base of the orgsnisation and the feasibility of the proposal are evaluated by an independent monitor. If the evaluation report is positive, the proposal is recommended for sanction and placed before the concerned National Standing Committee/Regional Committee of the CAPART.